

## Our Young People

### Prevailing Prayer

If when I kneel to pray,  
With eager lips I say :  
"Lord, give me all the things that I desire—  
Health, wealth, fame, friends, brave heart, religious  
fire,  
The power to sway my fellow-men at will,  
The strength for mighty works to banish ill"—  
In such a prayer as this,  
The blessing I must miss.

Or if I only dare  
To raise this fainting prayer :  
"Thou seest, Lord, that I am poor and weak,  
And cannot tell what things I ought to seek ;  
I therefore do not ask at all, but still  
I trust Thy bounty all my wants to fill."

My lips shall thus grow dumb,  
The blessing will not come.

But if I lowly fall,  
And thus in faith I call :

"Thru Christ, O Lord, I pray Thee give to me,  
Not what I would, but what seems best to Thee,  
Of life, of health, of service, and of strength,  
Until to Thy full joy I come at length,"  
My prayer shall then avail,  
The blessing will not fail.

—*Christian Endeavor World.*

### ARE WE DEBTORS TO CHRIST?

NETTIE LETCHER

Do we owe Christ a debt? Yes, we owe him a debt which is inestimable, and one which we can not fully pay in this life. We can and should try to pay him.

Think for a short time of all he bore for our sakes and then think if we are capable of paying this great debt. He bore sufferings that none of us know of; he bore the ridicule of many people while on this earth; he suffered secretly. Think of his suffering and agony in Gethsemane as he pours his soul out to his Father in heaven. He suffered himself to the punishment of the Jews, and at last, gave himself up as a sacrifice for sin, and died on Calvary's cross, and as those three words "It is finished," fell from his lips, he paid the price and bought salvation for you and me.

"Jesus paid it all,  
All to him I owe,  
Sin had left its crimson stain,  
He washed it white as snow."

All he asks in return for all this is for us to accept this salvation which he so freely gives, consecrate our lives to him, and at last enter into life eternal. Is this too much for all he has done for us.

### What is Religion?

J. R. Miller.

A lady regretted, not long since, that certain articles in a church paper "had not a bit of religion in them." She did not mean that they were not helpful, uplifting, instructive, but she evidently did not consider that anything could be religious without direct mention of God or salvation.

Do not let us divide our Father's kingdom, or the life he has given us, by such boundaries. Our week-day work should be as

much a matter of religion as our Sabbath rest. A cheery laugh may be as religious as an earnest prayer; the reading of a merry little story to a fretful invalid as much a Christian service as the reading of a Bible chapter to an aged saint. "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; . . . think on these things," says Saint Paul. Aye, talk of them, write them, live them, and have no fear that the Master will call it irreligious.

### Seek Souls

New York Observer.

#### Why seek souls?

1. Because they are lost. Christ's parable of the one sheep, and of the one piece of silver, makes this vividly clear.
2. Because they are precious. The lost sheep and coin are symbols of value. The whole world, said Jesus, cannot equal the worth of one immortal life.
3. Because Jesus taught by example the work of the Christian: "The Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost."

#### How seek souls?

1. By making the Christian life attractive, winsome in yourself. "I cannot be with her five minutes without feeling the sweetness and power of her spiritual life," said one person of another recently. It was a beautiful tribute to genuine Christianity. "Have you heard the gospel?" said a stranger to a converted heathen whose faith surprised him. "No, but I have seen it," he replied. Visible Christianity is better than spoken Christianity. It is not argument or appeal, but demonstration.
2. By personal work. A soul-winner uses every means of effective influence. "All things to all men, if by any means I may save some." That was Paul's way.

Is the art of personal work a lost art? Have you ever led a soul to Christ? Make the lesson personal. Why are there so few conversions in our churches? Pastors and people are not seeking as the men were lost; are not lighting the candle of a new consecration and searching till the precious coin is found.

Young people can have more freedom and success in winning their companions and friends to Christ than any other class of persons. Their hearts are then warm, and tender, and affectionate, and youth responds to youth. Our Endeavor societies ought to be capturing the boys and girls for Christ by the hundred. "He that winneth souls is wise." Make some particular one the object of your search, and do not rest until you find him the possessor of a new life.

There is no other way to win a soul than by seeing in him one whom Christ loves, and whom Christ, your Saviour, would have you win to him.—*L. W. Munhall.*

## Christian Life

### Christ the Healer

Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old  
Was strong to heal and save;  
It triumphed o'er disease and death,  
O'er darkness and the grave.  
To Thee they went, the blind, the dumb,  
The palsied, and the lame,  
The leper with his tainted life,  
The sick with fevered frame  
And lo, Thy touch brought life and health,  
Gave speech and strength and sight;  
And youth renewed and frenzy calmed  
Owned Thee, the Lord of light;  
And thou, O Lord, be near to bless,  
Almighty as of yore,  
In crowded street, by restless couch,  
As by Gennesareth's shore  
Thou Love and Might no longer heal  
By touch, or word, or look;  
Thou they who do Thy work must read  
Thy laws in nature's book  
Yet come to heal the sick man's soul,  
Come, cleanse the leprous taint;  
Give joy and peace where all is strife,  
And strength where all is faint.  
Be Thou our great Deliverer still,  
The Lord of life and death;  
Restore and quicken, soothe and bless  
With Thine almighty breath.  
To hands that work and eyes that see  
Give wisdom's heavenly lore,  
That whole and sick and weak and strong  
May praise Thee evermore.

—*Rev. Edward H. Plumptre.*

### Not Forgotten

Bishop Ryle.

In that great day no honor done to Christ on earth shall be found to have been forgotten. Not a single kind word or deed, not a cup of cold water, or a box of ointment, shall be omitted from the record. Do we know what it is to work for Christ? If we do let us take courage and work on. What greater encouragement can we desire than we see here? We may be laughed at and ridiculed by the world. Our motives may be misunderstood. Our conduct may be misrepresented. Our sacrifices for Christ's sake may be called "waste"—waste of time, waste of money, waste of strength. Let none of these things move us. The eye of Him who sat in Simon's house in Bethany is upon us. He notes all we do, and is well pleased. Let us be "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as we know that our labor is not in vain in the Lord."

### Consecration in the Christian's Life

F. B. Meyer.

The attitude of consecration is hardly a matter of option to a true believer. The professing Christian who is not entirely consecrated to Christ is really stealing the property of Him who has bought us by His precious blood, to be absolutely His own. Christ's body given to the tree, demands the corresponding gift of our entire being yielded to Him. Consecration does not make us Christ's, but is our recognition of His right in a purchased possession. The act of con-